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OC-0264-86
19 March 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

25X1 FROM:

Director of Communications

SUBJECT: Weekly Report

25X1 2. The proposal to convert Office of Communications' (OC) Electronic Technicians to the Banded Pay Schedule on 16 March has been approved by the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. OC Electronic Technicians will be notified of their position within the pay system under separate correspondence. Three hundred Personnel Actions were completed for the Banding conversion exercise.

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25X1 5. The Management and Plans Staff, Office of Communications
25X1 (OC), has been asked to explore the feasibility of developing an
25X1 OC museum of telecommunications equipment previously used in the
network. The display area will depend on salvage success but
is an obvious choice. Assistance
in locating vintage equipment has been requested from the five
OC Area Headquarters
Previous contractors may also be a source of equipment no longer
in the inventory.

7. MERCURY Program:

25X1 a. The Introduction to Packet Switching Course
conducted by M/A-COM Digital Communications Corporation
(DCC) concluded on 11 March.
Recommendations for course improvements from the participants
will be implemented prior to the next scheduled running of
the course in September. The consensus of all involved was
that the course can be compressed into one week.

b. Successful testing of a Data Sentry 10 Bit Error
Rate Tester through a TIMEPLEX Packet Assembler/Disassembler
and the packet switch at all pattern rates was accomplished
at the test bed. These units are utilized by the Office of
Communications for SKYLINK and other data testing purposes,
and testing demonstrated that they are also usable via the
packet switch. There had been some concern that the burst
nature of the packet switch might cause some problems.

c. A later version of packet switch software (Release
3.2) for the Network Operator's Console was delivered by
M/A-COM DCC for integration. Software updates for the

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Network Control Processor and the Packet Switch nodes are anticipated by 19 March. These updates are purported to correct stability problems inherent in the existing release.

d. The MERCURY Program Office has commenced planning for definition of the packet switch database for the initial MERCURY network. Database planning is based on candidate circuits identified jointly with the operations elements and is anticipated to continue through 1 August 1986. The initial MERCURY network will interconnect Headquarters.

beginning in December 1986.

e. Representatives from the Office of Information Technology (OIT), Development and Engineering, Network Systems Engineering Group, met with MERCURY Program Office officers on 12 March to commence informal discussion concerning interface of the MERCURY packet switch with the COMTEN X.25 front-end processor. The OIT representatives were provided a briefing on MERCURY status and system capabilities and were given a tour of the packet switch test bed.

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Distribution:

Original - OC-EXA Subject

1 - OC/OL/ISC

DD/CO, C/OPS, Division Chiefs
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Note: Weekly Report sent to the DDA via the VM/Wang interface.